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BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

C. W. J. HINGSTON

M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.T.M. & H.(Eng.), D.P.H.(Lond.)

and

Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. A. HACKING, M.A.P.H.I.

Municipal Offices, FALMOUTH, CORNWALL

(Telephone Falmouth 312691)

For the Year ending

31st DECEMBER, 1969

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C. W. J. HINGSTON

M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.T.M. & H.(Eng.), D.P.H.(Lond.)

Health Area Office No. 3

The Leats, TRURO, CORNWALL (Telephone Truro 2202)

and

Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. A. HACKING, M.A.P.H.I.

Municipal Offices, FALMOUTH, CORNWALL

(Telephone Falmouth 312691)

For the Year ending

31st DECEMBER, 1969

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1969

The MAYOR OF FALMOUTH: Councillor B. F. Smales

Chairman: Councillor S. Robinson

Vice-Chairman: Councillor A. Wilkinson

Alderman Miss E. M. Frost, Councillors D. J. Benson, A. S. Bevan,
Mrs. R. Dunstan, A. Spencer and K. H. Townsend

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

C. W. J. HINGSTON,
M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.T.M. & H.(Eng.), D.P.H.(Lond.)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. A. HACKING, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

W. F. CLARK, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

K. D. Birchall, M.A.P.H.I. (terminated 16.2.69)
P. A. Langham, B.Sc., M.A.P.H.I. (commenced 17.3.69)

Clerks:

Mrs. J. Boyce

Miss E. M. Porter

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Services for the Borough of Falmouth for the Year 1969.

The estimated mid-year population of the Borough was the same as 1967, i.e. 17,350. The number of deaths exceeded the number of live births by 14.

I am happy to report that the year was relatively free from notifiable diseases. The measles immunisation campaign which started in 1968 came to a halt in March 1969 due to the withdrawal of vaccine by the Ministry. This accounts for the low figure for those immunised in 1969. There are no significant changes in the causes of death for the year. Except where specifically stated the figures in the body of the report covering the personal services and immunisation are those for the whole of the Health Area number 3.

I wish to thank the Area Nursing Officer, Miss V. M. Graham, for her help in providing me with the statistical information on the Nursing Services, also the Clerical Staff at The Leats for assisting me in this Report; and the Town Clerk, Mr. Hall, and all Chief Officers of the Borough of Falmouth. I wish to thank Mr. Hacking and the Health Inspectorate Staff for their co-operation at all times. Lastly, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support throughout the year.

I have the honour to be
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

C. W. J. HINGSTON

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Falmouth.

VITAL STATISTICS 1969

	Local Authority Area			England and Wales (Total)
	Males	Females	Total	
Estimated mid-year home population	-	-	17,350	48,826,800
<u>Live Births</u>				
Total	124	110	234	797,542
Legitimate	112	95	207	730,500
Illegitimate	12	15	27	67,042
<u>Stillbirths</u>				
Total	1	1	2	10,662
Legitimate	1	1	2	9,555
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,107
<u>Total Live and Stillbirths</u>				
Total	125	111	236	808,204
Legitimate	113	96	209	740,055
Illegitimate	12	15	27	68,149

FALMOUTH BOROUGH

	Local Auth- ority Area	England and Wales
	-	-
<u>Live Birth Rates, etc.</u>		
Live births per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	13.5	16.3
Area comparability factor	1.15	1.00
Local adjusted rate	15.5	16.3
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.95	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	12.0	8.0
<u>Stillbirth Rate</u>		
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	8.0	13.0

	Local Authority Area			England and Wales (Total)	
	Males	Females	Total		
<u>Deaths of Infants</u>					
<u>Under 1 Year of Age</u>					
Total	4	-	4	14,397	
Legitimate	3	-	3	12,694	
Illegitimate	1	-	1	1,703	
<u>Under 4 weeks</u>					
Total	4	-	4	9,603	
Legitimate	3	-	3	8,494	
Illegitimate	1	-	1	1,109	
<u>Under 1 week of Age</u>					
Total	3	-	3	8,232	
Legitimate	2	-	2	7,266	
Illegitimate	1	-	1	966	
<u>Deaths - all ages</u>	134	114	248	579,463	

FALMOUTH BOROUGH

	Local Authority Area	England and Wales
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>		
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	17.00	18.00
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	14.00	17.00
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	37.00	25.00
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	17.00	12.00
<u>Early Neonatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births	13.00	10.00
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	21.00	23.00
<u>Death Rates, etc. - all ages</u>		
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	14.3	11.9
Area comparability factor	.81	1.00
Local adjusted rate	11.6	11.9
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.97	1.00

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total	Under	4 Weeks
		All Ages	4 Weeks	& under 1 Year
B17 Syphilis and its sequelae	M	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	M	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	M	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	2	-	-
	F	3	-	-
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	5	-	-
	F	4	-	-
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	12	-	-
	F	2	-	-
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	-	-	-
	F	5	-	-
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	M	1	-	-
B19(10) Leukaemia	M	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	6	-	-
	F	7	-	-
B20 Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	M	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	M	2	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B46(1) Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	M	3	-	-
	F	1	-	-
B23 Anaemias	M	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-
B46(4) Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	M	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-
TOTALS CARRIED FORWARD		M 34	-	-
		F 30	-	-

AGE IN YEARS

1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	6	4	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

-	-	-	-	2	3	11	11	7
1	-	-	-	2	4	7	5	11

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total	Under	4 Weeks	
		All Ages	4 Weeks	& under 1 Year	
B27 Hypertensive Disease	M	3	-	-	-
	F	4	-	-	-
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	42	-	-	-
	F	26	-	-	-
B29 Other forms of Heart Disease	M	10	-	-	-
	F	7	-	-	-
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	M	10	-	-	-
	F	23	-	-	-
B46(5) Other diseases of circulatory system	M	4	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-
B32 Pneumonia	M	8	-	-	-
	F	7	-	-	-
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	3	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-
B46(6) Other diseases of respiratory system	M	1	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-
B35 Appendicitis	M	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-
B36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-
B46(7) Other diseases of digestive system	M	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-
B39 Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	3	-	-	-
B46(8) Other diseases, Genito-Urinary system	M	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-
B41 Other complications of pregnancy, etc.	F	1	-	-	-
TOTALS CARRIED FORWARD		M 88	1	-	-
		F 76	-	-	-

AGE IN YEARS

1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
-	-	-	-	1	6	11	13	11
-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	16
-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	20
-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

-	-	-	-	2	8	16	21	40
-	-	-	2	-	1	5	11	57

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total	Under	4 Weeks
		All Ages	4 Weeks	& under 1 Year
B46(9) Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	M	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B42 Congenital Anomalies	M	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	M	3	3	-
	F	-	-	-
BE47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-
BE48 All other accidents	M	5	-	-
	F	5	-	-
BE49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	M	2	-	-
	F	-	-	-
BE50 All other external causes	M	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-
<u>TOTAL ALL CAUSES</u>		M 134	4	-
		F 114	-	-

AGE IN YEARS

1-4 5-14 15-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 75 and over

Causes of Stillbirths:

1. Prematurity
2. Hydrocephalic

Causes of Death in first week of life:

1. Pneumonia: respiratory distress syndrome.
2. Respiratory distress syndrome: prematurity.
3. Meningomyelocele: respiratory distress syndrome:
 Iuterus Gravis: Neonatorum Rh-disease.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES SINCE 1950

<u>Year</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>
1950	14.9	11.1	33.3
1951	15.1	10.8	33.2
1952	14.4	9.5	26.3
1953	15.9	10.6	15.9
1954	14.9	12.1	30.6
1955	14.9	11.9	8.5
1956	17.0	10.9	15.4
1957	16.1	12.3	8.1
1958	15.9	11.9	12.3
1959	15.7	12.3	20.7
1960	15.0	12.1	43.4
1961	19.1	13.8	22.6
1962	14.5	12.5	17.1
1963	17.5	15.7	11.3
1964	18.0	11.1	14.1
1965	18.0	12.9	21.9
1966	17.4	12.9	15.1
1967	14.7	14.7	8.9
1968	13.8	15.6	28.7
1969	15.5	11.6	17.0

Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases for the year 1969:-

Tuberculosis	...	3
Measles	...	11
Dysentery	...	29
Infective Jaundice		2

Stool specimens were submitted from 20 cases to the Public Health Laboratory Service from Falmouth Residents during the year. In none was any organism found to account for gastro-intestinal symptoms.

A case of avian Psittacosis in a cockatoo in a pet shop was diagnosed. Isolation and antibiotic treatment prevented the spread to other birds in the store. No handlers in the shop became infected.

Respiratory - Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis cases were reported as follows:-

Pulmonary: 1 Male aged 27 years
1 Male aged 44 years

Non-Pulmonary: 1 Female aged 46 years

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

I. Provision for Mothers and Young Children (Sec. 22)

Child Welfare Clinics - Falmouth

The number attending the Falmouth Clinic was 3,380. The number of sessions was 49 thus the average attendance per session was 69 as compared with 76 in 1968.

Dental (Includes Penryn)

Dental treatment was given to expectant mothers and children residing in the Boroughs of Falmouth and Penryn during 1969.

Ante-Natal

Ante-Natal Clinics were held at General Practitioners' Surgeries during 1969 and this scheme continues to work very successfully to the advantage of patients and nursing staff alike.

Family Planning

Family Planning still continues and Clinics are held weekly at the Infant Welfare Centre.

Mothercraft and Relaxation

Mothercraft and Relaxation Classes were well attended at the Welfare Centre: six courses of eight lectures each were given by County Nurse/Midwives during the year.

II. Midwifery Services (Sec. 23)

Seventy-seven home deliveries were undertaken in 1969 compared with 81 in 1968. Home deliveries show a further decrease in 1969 as compared with 1968, partly due to the present trend of sending first confinements to hospital, but the actual visits to midwifery patients is balanced by early discharge from maternity units. Medical aid was required in 15 home delivery cases as compared with 22 last year.

III. Health Visitors (Sec. 24)

Visits to young children at their homes were 5,733 compared with 5,829 in 1968. 1,425 visits were made to old persons as compared with 1,617 visits in 1968. Because of the shortage of residential accommodation on a long term basis for the elderly, great importance must be attached to the domiciliary care of the elderly; Home Helps and Home Aids, Home Nursing, Chiropody and the Meals Service are of vital importance in the successful domiciliary care of the elderly in the community. Much support has been given by the voluntary agency of the Local Old People's Welfare Committee in meeting the needs of the elderly.

Ninety-two talks and demonstrations on matters of Health and Hygiene were undertaken by the Health Visitors during the year.

IV. Home Nursing (Sec. 25)

16,737 visits were made by the Home Nurses to 409 general nursing cases; this compares with 16,572 visits in 1968 to 399 general nursing cases. Many of these general nursing cases require injections apart from general nursing care, and the increased work is mainly due to District Nurse/Midwife attachment to Doctors' surgeries.

V. Vaccination and Immunisation (Sec. 26)

HEALTH AREA NO. 3

	<u>1968</u>		<u>1969</u>	
	<u>Primary Doses</u>	<u>Reinforcing Doses</u>	<u>Primary Doses</u>	<u>Reinforcing Doses</u>
Measles	1,369		358	
Diphtheria	551	650	627	1,340
Tetanus	590	718	627	1,431
Poliomyelitis	565	873	759	1,294
Whooping Cough	498	331	627	521
Smallpox (Under 16 years old)	153	25	285	160
Tuberculosis (B.C.G.)				
Children	774		781	
Contacts	47		37	

VI. Ambulance Service (Sec. 27)

This service is under direct County control through the Ambulance Headquarters and thus no report on the day to day administration is given.

VII. Prevention, Care and After-Care (Sec. 28)

The Mobile X-Ray team attends Falmouth Welfare Clinic twice monthly for referred cases from Doctors and for carrying out further tests on students and children found to have a positive reaction to the Heaf Skin Test, and for the general public.

As regards long term immigrants who enter this Health Area, all are visited by a Health Visitor soon after arrival, and after registering with a Family Doctor are persuaded to have their chest X-Rayed, as a precaution against tuberculosis. As immigrants often come from countries where the incidence to tuberculosis is much higher than here, this safeguard of the immigrant seeking work in this country is essential if the incidence of tuberculosis in this country is to be further reduced. Twenty immigrants from eleven countries gave an address in this Health Area as their first destination on arrival in the United Kingdom in 1969. Most of them were employed in the catering trade.

Two Health Visitors spend much of their time in the Prevention, Care and After-Care Service associated with Tuberculosis, and the regular follow-up of cases to ensure the maintenance of a sputum negative state under continuous chemotherapy on a domiciliary basis is of vital importance.

Geriatric Prevention and After-Care

No action was taken under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act with regard to persons in need of care and attention during the year.

Yellow Fever

The Leats is a registered Centre for this immunisation and during 1969, 279 cases were immunised prior to going abroad, compared with 241 in 1968.

Medical Loans

A supply of domiciliary aids for the handicapped is available through the Health Area Office and through the County Welfare Department and the British Red Cross Society.

Chiropody

Domiciliary treatment is arranged through the Old People's Welfare Committee via the County Council. Patients contribute 2s. 6d. per session, the remainder being paid by grants from the Old People's Welfare Committee and the County Council. Two sessions per month are held at the Infant Welfare Centre, Killigrew Road, Falmouth.

VII. Prevention, Care and After-Care (Sec. 28) (Continued)

Cervical Cytology

Cervical smear clinics have continued in Truro and at Falmouth. Out of the total of 578 cases seen at these clinics during 1969, 3 suspicious cases were detected: of these 8 cases 5 resided in the Borough of Falmouth.

VIII. Home Help Service (Sec. 29)

The Home Help Service continues but since my last report individual figures for each Council are not available as this service is now administered from County Hall. However, a total of 428 cases received assistance in the whole of Health Area No. 3 and out of these cases 334 were over the age of 65.

BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is pleasing to report that a little progress has been made with the re-housing of eleven families from slum clearance premises during the current year. Unfortunately, eleven more houses were added to the list during the year, but only eight were tenanted. It is inevitable that more houses will be found which are unfit and incapable of repair at reasonable expense, since rents have been depressed for a number of years leading to the neglect, by owners, of their properties.

The new Housing Act might in time remedy the situation in that houses not already in this category might be prevented from becoming unfit, as rents can be increased in certain circumstances when the houses are improved to a certain standard and in any case rents may be increased on certain dates from the 1st January 1971, to the 1st January 1972, (depending on their rateable value) if the house already has standard amenities.

The new grants are generous enough to encourage owners to improve their properties, particularly where the local authorities are able to improve areas with the grants which are available to them for this purpose. Grants are also available to owners to enable them to remedy dampness (among other things) where, for instance, there is no damp course.

The emphasis is on encouragement as there are no statutory powers available to the local authorities to require improvements unless the tenant makes representations to the local authority with a view to the authority exercising their powers to require the provision of one or more amenities under the provisions of the Housing Act 1964, which are still in force.

Considerable difficulties were experienced during the year when houses, built near the refuse tip, were occupied before a high fence was built, and before the area near the houses had been filled. The filling of this area was rendered more difficult by the Council's decision forbidding the refuse vehicles to pass through the estate. However, temporary permission was given for this to be done and a short road was constructed linking the refuse tip to the estate at the high level, enabling tipping to be commenced on the 1st December. This should enable the area immediately in front of the houses to be filled and it is intended to tip a shallow gradient way to the lower levels so that vehicles can negotiate the gradient from the lower level in future, thus enabling tipping to take place at any level as required.

The close proximity of the houses to the tip is very undesirable from a health point of view and it may well be that the decision to postpone indefinitely the provision of a pulverising plant at the tip will be regretted. This decision was taken, quite rightly, after it became known that a tip would most likely be available within eight miles of Falmouth before the present tip is filled and transportation of refuse over this distance would be more economic than the provision of a pulverising plant to fill the present refuse tip, which would then become merely a transfer station.

I am indebted to Mr. R. G. King, F.I.M.T.A., Borough Treasurer; Mr. B. J. Sweeney, M.I.Mun.E., F.R.I.C.S., M.Inst.H.E., Borough Surveyor; Mr. J. F. Holman, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., of the South Cornwall Water Board; Mr. J. R. C. Finlayson, A.I.Hsg., Housing Manager; and to Mr. G. A. Carlyle, Transport Inspector; for the information supplied regarding Finance, Sewerage, Water Supply, Housing and Transport respectively, also to Dr. C. W. J. Hingston for his advice and support, and to the staff for their loyal support and co-operation during the year and for their contribution to the report.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. HACKING

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

Visits

Dwellings	226
Other matters	81
Revisits	309
Houses in Multiple Occupation	25
Slum Clearance	93
Overcrowding	4
Infectious Diseases	20
Places of entertainment	2
Disinfestation/Disinfection	128
Swimming Pool	20
Hairdressers	14
Council Houses	83
TOTAL	<u>1,005</u>

Complaints

The following complaints were received and were dealt with during the year:-

Obstructed drains and sewers	142
Unsatisfactory housing conditions	111
Defective drains	36
Overcrowding	2
Offensive accumulations	53
Holiday accommodation	3
Keeping of animals	2
Noise	4
Offensive smells	30
Wild Life	1

IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED

Dwelling Houses

Roofs repaired	.....	5
Eavesgutters and rainwater pipes repaired	.....	13
Walls and ceilings repaired	.....	14
Windows repaired	.....	14
Floors repaired	.....	5
Fireplaces, chimneys and flues repaired	.....	2
Dampness remedied	.....	36
Waterclosets repaired	.....	2
Drains repaired	.....	24
Paving repaired	.....	2
Waste pipes repaired	.....	4
Obstructed drains cleansed	.....	59
Obstructed interceptors cleansed	.....	41
Sewers cleansed	.....	11
Premises disinfested or disinfected	.....	66
Ventilation pipe extended	.....	1
Drains sealed	.....	18
Accumulations of refuse removed	.....	9
Buildings demolished	.....	1
Leaking taps repaired	.....	1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Informal Notices complied with	.....	52
Number of premises affected	.....	59
Statutory Notices complied with	.....	11
Number of premises affected	.....	9

ERECITION OF HOUSES

49 private dwellings and 175 council houses were built during the year.

SLUM CLEARANCE

During the year 8 properties were formally dealt with by individual closing or demolition orders. One property on which a closing order had been made during 1968 was rehabilitated and one closed dwelling was demolished. Variations were made to two closing orders, one to use a room as a bathroom and another to use the premises as a theatre club.

OVERTCROWDING

(1)	No. of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	.....	Nil
(2)	No. of new cases of overcrowding reported	.....	Nil
(3)	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved	.....	1
	No. of persons involved	.....	5
(4)	Particulars of any case in which a dwelling has again become overcrowded	.....	Nil

COUNCIL HOUSES

83 visits were made to council houses in co-operation with the Borough Surveyor's Department to ascertain causes of dampness. In the majority of cases the cause was condensation.

HOUSING ACT, 1969.

Considerable interest was shown by the committee in the provisions of this new Act. Following attendance at a one day seminar at Torbay under the auspices of the Association of Public Health Inspectors, it was decided to publicise the provisions of the Act and discuss area improvement.

SWIMMING POOLS

Byelaws for the control of private swimming pools were introduced in 1966 to ensure hygienic conditions in the one private swimming pool (excluding schools) in the Borough. 20 visits were made and 40 tests carried out for chlorine content and pH value of the water. The attendant tested the pool 3 times daily for chlorine content and the pH value of the water and records were kept of this testing.

DISINFESTATION

128 visits were made by public health inspectors to premises regarding disinfestation.

64 complaints were made to the department regarding insect pests. 21 of these were wasps' nests destroyed by the Rodent Operative, including 9 on private land for which a charge was made.

The main causes of complaint were cluster flies, fleas, wood lice and cockroaches and 28 premises were treated. In other cases the occupants were advised on treatment.

38 council houses were disinfested on becoming empty as a precautionary measure.

RODENT CONTROL

275 premises were treated against rats and 20 against mice. Coumarin derivatives were the main poisoning agents used.

Particulars of the work carried out by the Rodent Operative during the year are as follows:-

Complaints	258
Inspections	1,054
Premises treated	303
Initial points laid	1,367
Initial "takes"	844

27 visits were made to premises by Public Health Inspectors regarding rodent infestation.

The annual test baiting of sewers was carried out during the year followed by two maintenance treatments at six monthly intervals. In all 208 manholes were baited and 17 "takes" were noted.

The Rodent Operative attended a refresher course held by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967.

34 apparently abandoned vehicles and 3 accumulations of rubbish were dealt with under the above Act. This necessitated 141 visits and revisits and consumed quite a lot of time.

All the vehicles except one were dealt with informally, and one was removed by a salvage firm for destruction. One of the piles of rubbish was removed by the Council under payment and the other two were removed privately.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Visits and Interviews

Interviews	.....	22
Accidents	.....	7
Offices	.....	51
Shops	.....	261
Catering Establishments	.....	10
		TOTAL
		351

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	59	16
Retail Shops	12	137	41
Wholesale shops and warehouses	0	6	0
Catering estab- lishments open to the public	4	33	4
Fuel storage depots	0	1	0
TOTALS	17	236	61

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

<u>Class of Workplace</u>	<u>No. of Persons Employed</u>
Offices	393
Retail Shops	866
Wholesale departments and warehouses	28
Catering establishments open to the public	139
Canteens	6
Fuel storage depots	11
TOTAL	1,443

Total Males - 512

Total Females - 931

This Act continued to occupy a considerable amount of time, both in inspections and in administration. Comparing the number of premises receiving a general inspection during the year with the number of visits made, it will be readily seen that each property dealt with received several revisits, checking work done, meeting architects, builders and owners, both on site and at the office.

Registration

At the moment, it is not necessary to register some clubs and the Act does not apply to them. Employees are there for longer hours than nearby public houses, carry out the same sort of work and yet, because there is a two day delay between application and full membership, the Act does not apply.

Similarly, does a small branch office open for $2\frac{1}{2}$ days a week with one person in attendance for 20 hours, not even warrant a toilet?

It is felt that these anomalies could be removed if the qualifying hours were reduced or modified to cover the case of a person continuously employed for more than 2 hours yet not working 21 hours a week, and all occupiers of business were required to register. The Form OSR.1 could easily be modified to include a section for occupiers to complete if they considered their premises did not come within the scope of the Act, which could then be investigated in case of doubt. The enforcing authorities would thus be provided with information about premises which are not now registered and which in many cases should be registered.

In addition it is felt that publicity should be given from time to time regarding the need to register to remind, or even inform, new occupiers of the need to register in all cases.

Complaints

Two complaints were received regarding inadequate temperature. Both were investigated, found to be warranted and appropriate action taken.

59 informal notices were served for the following contraventions of the section shown:-

<u>Section</u>	<u>Regarding</u>	<u>Number</u>
4	Cleanliness	13
6	Temperature	28
7	Ventilation	8
8	Lighting	21
9	Sanitary conveniences	23
10	Washing facilities	21
11	Supply of drinking water	3
12	Clothing accommodation	5
13	Sitting facilities	3
16	Floors, passages and stairs	29
17	Dangerous machinery	3
24	First Aid provisions	34
50	Information for employees	49

Alterations and improvements were completed on 39 premises.

Operation of the General Provisions of the Act

Section 4. Cleanliness

It is felt that regulations should now be made which stipulate the time allowed to elapse between decoration, similar to the Factories Act together with the notes to be made in the General Register.

Section 6. Temperature

The temperature recommended is, in my opinion, too low for sedentary occupations.

Section 10. Washing Facilities

It has been the practice in the past to recommend to occupiers of premises to which the Food Hygiene Regulations apply, that washing facilities should be sited in or near to the site of operations. In consequence, many wash hand basins have been sited in kitchens instead of in their own compartment. This, it is felt, induces the food handlers to wash their hands more often in the wash basin instead of using the sink. Now it would appear that where the number of persons exceeds five of mixed sexes, two wash basins must be provided, each in its own compartment (Reg. 3(3)(c)). I feel that this is a retrograde step from the Food Hygiene point of view, because many occupants tend to move wash basins from their kitchens rather than provide entirely new facilities, and I can only insist on the basin being provided (under Food Hygiene Regulations) in a position "conveniently accessible" to food handlers. I would, of course, prefer to see a basin adjacent to a W.C. and also one in the kitchen, but this cannot always be achieved, even in new premises.

Section 15. Eating Facilities

Office employees are exempt from the provisions of this section and it is felt that an unfair distinction is made between the two types of worker. Surely the time has come for all to be brought to the same standard.

Accidents

Nine accidents were reported during the year, none were serious and no action was necessary to prevent recurrence.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Visits

Food Premises, including licensed premises, hotels etc.	322
Stalls, mobile shops and delivery vehicles	31
Unsound food	116
Food complaints	24
Ice cream sampling	70
Oyster sampling	4
Clotted cream sampling	34
Pasteurised egg sampling	5
Milk distributors	34
TOTAL	640

Complaints and Inspections

9 complaints were received regarding food, 1 of which warranted court action, 5 resulted in warning letters being sent, 1 was referred to the Weights and Measures Department of Cornwall County Council and in 2 cases no action was taken. The proprietors of one shop were prosecuted under the Food Hygiene Regulations and fined £5.

There are 484 food premises including hotels and guest houses all of which are regularly inspected, resulting in improvements to 18 premises. No attempt is made to keep separate records of the various trades involved since many, particularly the supermarket type of shop, represent several trades. All premises have wash hand basins, and sinks or other facilities where appropriate.

Surrendered Food

237 certificates were issued in connection with unsound food, the following being condemned:-

Meat	215 lbs.
Cooked Meat and Meat Products ...	10 lbs.
Canned Meats	352 lbs.
Other Canned Foods	2,689 lbs.
Other Foods	354 lbs.
TOTAL	3,620 lbs.

The method of disposal of condemned food is collection by the Council and burial at the Council's controlled tip.

Sampling

Ice Cream

During the year 73 samples of ice cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination, with the following results.

Grade I	-	45
Grade II	-	11
Grade III	-	13
Grade IV	-	4

The Grade IV samples were due to insufficient cleansing of the servers. Following advice on sterilization, Grade I samples were obtained.

Cream

46 samples of creams including whipping, clotted, whipped, single and double were sent to the Public Health Laboratory. On the whole samples were satisfactory from this area.

Satisfactory - 35. Unsatisfactory - 11.

Royal Society of Health

Certificate in Hygiene of Food Handling and Catering

The local Technical College again offered this course for food handlers culminating in an examination set by the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health. Eleven successful candidates received a certificate from the Royal Society and it was decided that this Council should issue certificates to employers of these candidates for display on their premises.

SHOPS ACTS

The Council is responsible for the administration of the Shops Act, 1950, and during the year an Order was made under Section 40 suspending during the period from the 2nd June to the 27th September, 1969, the obligation to close on the weekly half-holiday for all classes of shops.

An Order was also made under Section 41 extending the closing hours of all shops to 10.00 p.m. during the period commencing the 2nd June to the 27th September, 1969.

Under Section 51 of the Shops Act, 1950, which relates to Sunday Trading, an Order was made concerning shops engaged in the sale of any article required for the purpose of bathing or fishing, photographic requisites, toys, souvenires and fancy goods, books, stationery, photographs, reproductions and postcards, allowing these shops to open between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m. during the period commencing 1st June to the 28th September, 1969.

Number of complaints received -- 2.

23 visits were made regarding the Shops (Early Closing Days) Act, 1965, and the Shops Act, 1950. Most of the problems were associated with times of opening especially at periods when the Orders under Sections 40, 41 and 51 were not in force.

The larger departmental stores created a precedent at Christmas so far as Falmouth is concerned, by changing their half holiday for one week only in order to create more "shopping days" before the long week-end, this enabled them to open on Wednesday, 17th December, as well as the Wednesday which was Christmas Eve. This would appear to be a loophole in the 1965 Act which allows the half holiday to be changed for one week only, if notices are displayed to that effect.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	59	36	3	0
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	1	1	0	0
TOTALS	61	39	3	0

2. Number of cases in which defects were found - 3

OUTWORK

Number of outworkers (required under Sections 133 & 134) - NIL
 5 visits were made to outworkers' premises.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	--	--	--	--	--
Overcrowding (S.2)	--	--	--	--	--
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	--	--	--	--	--
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	--	--	--	--	--
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	--	--	--	--	--
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	--	--	--	--	--
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	2	--	1	--
(c) Not separate for sexes	--	--	--	--	--
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	--	--	--	--	--
TOTALS	3	2	-	1	--

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Visits

Drainage general	543
Smoke tests (visits).	149
Number of smoke tests carried out	291
Water tests (visits)	110
Number of water tests carried out	273
Colour tests	78
Choked drains and sewers	253
Cesspit/Gully Emptier	177

Total No. of Visits - 1,310

Sewerage

Disposal of the whole of the sewage of the Borough is by means of sea outfalls at Middle Point, Gyllyngvase and Pennance Point. At four positions the sewage is raised to higher levels namely, North Parade, Prince of Wales' Pier, Riviera Hotel, and the rear of Swanpool. Sewage ejectors are employed for this purpose and at Prince of Wales' Pier a new station has been built with twin ejectors installed to replace the old station.

The Falmouth Borough Council receives sewage from Penryn and from the village of Mabe into its main sewer to the south of Trescobeas Road whence it flows via the Swanvale valley trunk sewer to the works at Swanvale and thence to sea at Pennance Point.

The Council has adopted its Consulting Engineers' report on improvements to the sewerage system in the western part of the Borough. These will include the abandonment of the sea outfall at Swanpool Point and the diversion of sewage from there to the Pennance Point outfall.

Kerrier Rural District Council are proceeding with a scheme for the main drainage of Budock and Mawman which will include pumping stations at Maenporth and Pennance Mill and tidal storage tanks at Pennance Mill. The latter are also to be used by this Council in connection with the drainage of nearby parts of the Borough. Sewage from the Kerrier Rural District Council Scheme is to be discharged via this Council's sea outfall at Pennance Point.

The Council has considered and decided to adopt a report by its Consulting Engineers to amend conditions at the Middle Point outfall by the installation of an automatic lunar clock controlled valve to provide for retention until discharge at certain agreed tide conditions. Comminution of the sewage is also to be undertaken.

Cesspools

93 premises in the Borough are served by 73 cesspools. During the year they were emptied as required and this necessitated the removal of 1,197 loads.

Since the 1st October, 1967, all true cesspools have been allowed 26 loads removed free per annum. Caravan sites have 2 loads per caravan or chalet free and septic tanks have 1 load per annum free. Any additional loads are charged at the rate of 35/- per hour.

The service is carried out by two men manning an 1100 gallon cesspool emptier which is used an average of $3\frac{1}{2}$ days per week on this work. During the rest of the week the vehicle is employed cleansing street gullies. The existing vehicle is to be replaced by a new 1200 gallon vehicle during 1970.

Mileage, 1968	...	5,198
Mileage, 1969	...	5,096

WATER SUPPLY

From the 1st April, 1968, the Water Supply Undertaking was administered by the South Cornwall Water Board.

During the period under review the water supplied to the Borough has been satisfactory in both quantity and quality and no contamination has been experienced.

All the dwellinghouses are supplied direct from the public water mains. There are no standpipes.

The Board does not analyse for fluoride content at present.

A sample was taken following a complaint of discolouration, but was found to be bacteriologically sound.

477 samples of both untreated and treated water were submitted by the South Cornwall Water Board to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological analysis during the year ending December, 1969, from this Health Area. All treated samples were satisfactory.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES

Control of Movable Dwellings

There are 5 sites with accommodation for 186 caravans or chalets, 93 of which are residential. There is one site reserved exclusively for tents, accommodating 72.

In addition there are 4 individual residential caravans, 3 individual holiday caravans and 5 individual residential caravans on building sites.

All the sites have sanitary conveniences, washing and bathing facilities and are provided with main water supply and dustbins.

Number of complaints received ... 4

Number of visits made 68

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Public Conveniences in the Borough are:-

<u>Site</u>	<u>Accommodation</u>		<u>Accommodation</u>
	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	
Greenbank Gardens	1 W.C.	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
Prince of Wales Pier	7 W.Cs	4 W.Cs	9 Urinal Stalls
Webber Street	5 W.Cs	Nil	Nil
The Moor	Nil	3 W.Cs	14 Urinal Stalls
Quarry Car Park	2 W.Cs	1 W.C.	3 Urinal Stalls
Custom House Quay	4 W.Cs	2 W.Cs	5 Urinal Stalls
Grove Place	Nil	2 W.Cs	8 Urinal Stalls
Cliff Road	2 W.Cs	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
Gyllyngvase Beach	10 W.Cs	4 W.Cs	10 Urinal Stalls
Cemetery	1 W.C.	1 W.C.	3 Urinal Stalls
Swanpool Beach	3 W.Cs	2 W.Cs	1 Urinal Stall
Kimberley Park	1 W.C.	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
Gyllyngdune Gardens	2 W.Cs	1 W.C.	3 Urinal Stalls
Recreation Ground	4 W.Cs	2 W.Cs	6 Urinal Stalls
Maenporth Beach	3 W.Cs	2 W.Cs	4 Urinal Stalls
Castle Beach	3 W.Cs	2 W.Cs	4 Urinal Stalls

10 complaints were received during the year mostly about the condition of the conveniences which are not fully manned. 344 inspections were made by supervisory staff.

2 waterclosets were altered to cater for invalids in wheel-chairs, a ramp to the convenience having been provided last year.

As an experiment 2 hot air hand driers were installed in conveniences as a possible replacement for paper hand towel machines when decimalisation takes place in 1971. Unfortunately, due to vandalism and breakdowns, they were not a success.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse Collection

A daily early morning service of refuse bin collection operates in the town centre and the rest of the town using paper sacks receives a weekly collection. Trouble has been experienced by the delamination of the plastic coated sack stands and agreement has been reached for changing all the lids. Negotiations are still in progress for renewal of the delaminated collars and guards. However, an experimental 500 delaminated collars and lids were changed towards the end of the year but the guards were refixed and negotiations were continued for replacement of all defective units and parts of units.

Another Shelvoke & Drewry 37 cu. yd. Pakamatic refuse vehicle was acquired during the year. This enabled the service to be maintained despite the increase in bulk from existing premises and also provided for the increased number of new houses. 72 calls were made to see refuse collection vehicles or drivers.

Three refuse collection vehicles are in regular use staffed by a driver and three fillers and in addition one vehicle is kept as a "reserve". The total mileage covered by all vehicles was 12,879. Due to mechanical failures and for the purpose of inspection and maintenance, the four vehicles were not available for $38\frac{1}{4}$ working days; of these 6 days were lost while awaiting spare parts. Monthly Saturday maintenance ensured that vehicles were not unnecessarily unavailable.

The Council decided to make a charge for the removal of trade refuse and initially it was costed at 10/- per bin per six months. However, this created confusion, especially in the town area where there is a daily collection. The rate was changed to $2\frac{1}{2}$ d per bin per collection for the second six months' period. 1,334 visits were made regarding trade refuse mostly between the hours of 7.30 and 9.00 a.m.

A free monthly collection of bulky household articles started in April was very successful and was used by 146 persons. One would hope that when this service becomes more widely known the dumping of mattresses and other articles on waste land will be reduced substantially.

Another service started in April was the collection of garden refuse in sacks for a fee of 1/- (including the sack) which was specially stamped. 432 of these were used.

Arrangements were made with a private contractor, at no cost to the Council, to remove waste paper and cardboard from wherever he wished to collect, including the refuse tip.

After a short trial period of six weeks it was decided to have an extended trial of plastic sacks for 12 months. Except for the "Pilot" scheme where difficulty was experienced in fitting the sack to the holder, the sacks fitted well and held more refuse. This trial necessitated 125 visits to premises to see the sacks in use and to get occupants' views.

Due to the new Heavy Goods Vehicle Driving Licence being applicable in 1970, and the tightening up of the law which requires the driver to "attend" his vehicle when the engine is running, it was decided to discontinue the post of loader/driver and substitute driver/ganger. All reserve and regular drivers were given sufficient experience to qualify them for a Heavy Goods Vehicle Licence without having to take a test.

In all 1,694 interviews and visits were made regarding refuse collection.

Refuse Disposal

All refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at the Council's tip at Trescobeas, together with that of Penryn Borough Council, who by agreement pay a percentage of the cost.

The provision of a new tip to serve Penryn, Truro City, Truro Rural and Falmouth Councils within a reasonable distance for all four authorities proceeded very slowly. Nothing is as yet settled although several sites suggested by the Area Planning Authority have been visited. Several meetings were held by the officers responsible, and the Cornwall County Council Central Area Planning Authority held a site meeting as a result of a planning application being made for a suitable site.

Towards the end of the year the Ashfield Council Estate was completed and a start was made on the area of the tip nearest to the new dwellings in an attempt to improve the appearance of the ground near the houses. A new access road was provided because the new tipping face was much higher than the old road and vehicles were unable to negotiate the slope. As expected there were many complaints from the residents initially, especially about seagulls, but as work progresses further away from the dwellings the complaints are lessening.

Loads Deposited at Refuse Tip

Refuse Vehicles

Karrier Dual Tip	(13 cu. yds.)	924 GAF (Reserve) ...	64
Vehicle disposed of 1.5.69.			
S & D	Dual Tip	(25 cu. yds.) 407 SAF (Reserve) ...	307
S & D	Dual Tip	(25 cu. yds.) RRO 867 D	899
S & D	Dual Tip	(37 cu. yds.) NRL 352 F	528
S & D	Dual Tip	(37 cu. yds.) RCV 315 G	368
<u>Hired Transport</u>			30
Deposited by Penryn Borough Council			1,106
Deposited by other Falmouth Council vehicles			1,102

Permission was granted on 204 occasions for persons to dump rubbish on the tip. This amounted to:-

234 lorry loads

123 van loads

and 104 car loads.

Miscellaneous Items

Attendances at Council and Committee Meetings	48
Local Land Charges Supplementary Enquiries	440
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts and Housing Acts Enquiries	32
Deposited plans examined	212
Preliminary Notices served	115
Statutory Notices served	38

FALMOUTH BOROUGH

Statistics 1969

(1968 figures in brackets)

Area in acres	...	...	1,893
Estimated population, 1969	...	...	17,350 (17,370)
Inhabited houses, 1969	...	...	6,259
Rateable value	...	...	£817,894 (£788,108)
Product of penny rate	...	...	£3,249 (£3,148)
Families on waiting list for houses	...	...	306 (324)
Rainfall 1969 (inches)	...	...	52.3 (40.9)
Rainfall, average of past 80 years (inches)			43.9
Sunshine 1969 (hours)	...	...	1709.0 (1508.0)
Sunshine, average of past 80 years (hours)			1697.8

SUMMARY OF ALL VISITS AND INTERVIEWS

Public Health and Housing Acts	1005
Drainage and Sewage Disposal	1310
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	351
Food	640
Rodent Control	27
Caravan and Camping Sites	61
Shops Acts	23
Factories Act	44
Civic Amenities Act	141
Public Conveniences	344
Refuse Collection	1694
Refuse Disposal	263
Other visits and interviews	1520
including:-	
Clean Air Act	9
Pet Animals Act	9
Waste Foods Order	2
"No access" visits	386
Deposited plans	33
Miscellaneous	435
Medical Officer of Health	18
Chairman	11
Owners	195
Builders	263
Architects	7
Solicitors	12
Depots	131
Seamen's Lodging House	2
Water Samples	4
Port Health	3
	<hr/>
	TOTAL
	7423

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